Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01296 181620Z ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7781

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USNMR SHAPE BEL

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL NICOSIA 1296

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY

SUBJECT: KYPRIANOU HINTS AT HARDER LINE ON CYPRUS PROBLEM

REF: NICOSIA 1236 (DTG 121531Z MAY 78)

1. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU HELD PRESS CONFERENCE MAY 18 CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 01296 181620Z

ON EVE OF HIS DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK TO ADDRESS UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT. ALTHOUGH HE LARGELY REITERATED STANDARD GOC POSITIONS ON CYPRUS PROBLEM, SOME OF HIS REMARKS INDICATE GOC IS ON VERGE OF DECIDING TO CHANGE POLICY ON MEHTHOD OF SEEKING SOLUTION TO CYPRUS PROBLEM, SHIFTING EMPHASIS AWAY FROM INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AND CONCENTRATING ON FURTHER INTERNATIONALIZATION

OF ISSUE.

- 2. IN OPENING REMARKS, KYPRIANOU MADE, INTER ALIA, FOLLOWING POINTS:
- -- CYPRUS IS POSSIBLY ENTERING INTO "LONG STRUGGLE."
 EFFORTS AT INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS HAVE PRODUCED NEGATIVE
 RESULTS. QUESTION MUST NOW BE ANSWERED, WHETHER
 ALTERNATIVE POLICIES SHOULD BE FOLLOWED.
 -- AMONG POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES ARE REQUESTS TO
 SECURITY COUNCIL TO ENFORCE UN RESOLUTIONS, OR
 AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AS SUGGESTED BY USSR.
 -- ON RETURN FROM CONSULTATIONS IN NEW YORK, AND
 GREECE HE WILL MEET WITH NATIONAL COUNCIL AND COUNCIL

OF MINISTERS, REVIEW WITH THEM RESULTS OF HIS CONSULTATIONS,

3. IN QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION, THESE ADDITIONAL POINTS CAME OUT:

AND REACH DECISION ON COURSE TO PURSUE.

- -- ASKED IF GOC WOULD WITHDRAW CONCESSIONS MADE DURING VIENNA VI ROUND, KYPRIANOU SAID GOC WOULD DETERMINE "NEW HANDLING" OF PROBLEM IN LIGHT OF CONSULTATIONS.
- -- A POSSIBLE NEW APPROACH WOULD BE COMMITTEE OF SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO UNDERTAKE INITIATIVE ON CYPRUS (HE REFERRED TO GALO PLAZA PLAN).
- -- GOC HAS REACHED SOME DECISIONS IN PRINCIPLE ON NEW MOVES; FINAL DECISIONS WILL BE MADE AFTER CONSULTATIONS CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 NICOSI 01296 181620Z

ARE COMPLETED.

4. COMMENT: KYPRIANOU HAS IN PAST INDICATED A PREFERENCE FOR THE "LONG STRUGGLE FOR VINDICATION" OVER THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS TOWARD A SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, AND HAS REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THE "PAINFULNESS" OF CONCESSIONS MADE BY MAKARIOS DURING VIENNA VI. SINCE TAKING OFFICE, AND ESPECIALLY SINCE ECEVIT'S JANUARY INITIATIVE, KYPRIANOU HAS SOUGHT TO ADD CONDITIONS SUCH AS "REASONABLENESS" AND "JUSTICE" TO FOUR PRINCIPLES AGREED ON BETWEEN DENKTASH AND MAKARIOS IN EARLY 1977 AS A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS. NOW IT APPEARS HE IS GOING FURTHER AND MAY BE PREPARED TO RELEGATE THE NEGOTIATING TRACK TO DISTINCTLY SECOND PLACE ON PRETEXT THAT LATEST TURKISH PROPOSALS PROVE THAT TURKISH SIDE LACKS NECESSARY GOOD WILL TO REACH A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. IF HE SUCEEDS IN SELLING THIS POINT IN GREECE AND NEW YORK, HE WILL BE MORE INCLINED TO OPT COMPLETELY FOR THE LONG STRUGGLE WHEN HE RETURNS TO CYPRUS. NEGATIVE RESPONSES IN THOSE PLACES MIGHT MAKE HIM MORE CAUTIOUS. END COMMEND. STONE

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